

PATENT SPECIFICATION

764,717



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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improved Means for Peeling and Coring Pineapples.

I, ROY HOLMES, a British Subject, of 39 Lime Avenue, Breadsall, Derby, in the County of Derby, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to improved means for peeling and coring pineapples.

According to the present invention two cylindrical cutter tubes are constrained to move axially in relation to a support on which a pineapple can be positioned, so that the pineapple enters the tubes, the inner of which receives the core of the pineapple while the outer one removes the peel.

Preferably a base is provided on which the pineapple can be supported (after having had its top and bottom cut off) and the peeler and corer tubes are made to descend vertically upon the pineapple.

For this purpose the tubes are preferably connected with a pivoted operating lever capable of being raised and lowered by hand.

The outer peeler tube is preferably provided with splitting knives which act upon the peel as it is removed from the pineapple and cut it vertically.

Ejector devices are provided in conjunction with the peeler and corer tubes to eject the pineapple and its core therefrom when the tubes are returned at the conclusion of the peeling and coring stroke.

Provision is made for adjusting the machine to suit different heights of pineapples.

A constructional form of the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the machine.

Figure 2 is a perspective view showing it in operation upon a pineapple.

[Price 3s. 0d.]

Figure 3 is a vertical section on line III—III of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a horizontal section on line IV—IV of Figure 1.

The machine comprises a base or support 10 having feet 11. The base has an upwardly extending curved arm or bracket 12 which carries a fixed cylindrical housing or sleeve 13. Obviously any other kind of support or legs for carrying this housing 13 can be used. On the arm 12 there is an upwardly projecting lug 12a and on to this a link 14 is fitted, the link having a forked bottom end with holes through which a pivot-pin 15 is passed to secure the link to the lug 12a. The link has a lever 16 pivotally connected to its upper end, which is forked similarly to the bottom end, by means of a pivot pin 17. Alternative positions for attachment of the lever to the link are provided by intermediate holes 18, 19. The lever 16 is formed with a central divided portion or yoke 20 and is continued beyond the yoke to form a handle 21. The yoke 20 has a pin 22 passed transversely through it and through a hole in a pillar 23 which carries a head plate 24 to which are attached a pair of depending vertical cutter tubes of cylindrical form whose lower edges are sharpened off to a cutting edge. The outer of these tubes 26 is the peeler tube and carries a pair of splitting knives 27 which cut the peel vertically into halves, see Figure 2, when the lever 16, 20, 21 is brought down. The inner of the tubes 28 is the corer tube, which receives the core of the pineapple. The housing 13 has upwardly extending wings 30 provided with slots 31 in which a cross-head 32 is located. The ends of the cross-head are screw-threaded to receive tightening nuts 33 each having a wing or lever extension 33a, so that the cross-head can be secured at any height desired. The cross-head is drilled to receive

the upper end of three ejector rods. The central one 34 extends down the central corer tube when the parts are in the raised position and carries a corer ejector plate 35 at its lower end which registers with the corer tube. The other two rods 36 extend downwards in the peeler tube when the parts are in the raised position and carry an ejector plate 37 for the peeler tube. The pillar 23 and head plate 24 are drilled to allow the ejector rods 34, 36 to pass through. When the peeler and corer tubes are in their bottom position, as shown in dotted lines in Figure 1, and the lever is raised, the pineapple and core are contained wholly inside the tubes and the tendency would be for the pineapple and core to be lifted up as the tubes are raised. The ejector plates 35, 37 take the thrust of the core and the pineapple respectively and so these are both ejected from the tubes and left behind on the base 10 when the tubes return to the position shown in firm lines in Figure 1. The invention is not of course confined to any particular materials for the several parts of the machine but it is considered preferable for the peeler and corer tubes to be of stainless steel.

The invention provides a simple hand-operated machine which will rapidly peel and core pineapples and leave the cylindrical edible portion with a central hole where the core has been, ready for slicing into rings or cutting into chunks as may be preferred. When it is desired to change over from one size of pineapple to another, the height of the operating lever setting is adjusted in the link 14 and the height of the ejector plates is adjusted by means of the cross-head 32. It will be understood that the girth of the pineapples does not vary much in the commercial grades; height adjustment is all that is needed.

What I claim is:—

1. A machine for peeling and coring pineapples in which two cylindrical cutter tubes are constrained to move axially in relation to a support on which a pineapple can be positioned, so that the pineapple enters the tubes, the inner of which receives the

core of the pineapple while the outer one removes the peel.

2. A machine as claimed in Claim 1 in which a base is provided on which the pineapple can be supported (after having had its top and bottom cut off) and the peeler and corer tubes are made to descend vertically upon the pineapple.

3. A machine as claimed in Claim 2 in which the tubes are connected with a pivoted operating lever capable of being raised and lowered by hand.

4. A machine as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which the outer peeler tube is provided with splitting knives which act upon the peel as it is removed from the pineapple and cut it lengthwise.

5. A machine as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which ejector devices are provided in conjunction with the peeler and corer tubes to eject the pineapple and its core therefrom when the tubes are returned at the conclusion of the peeling and coring strokes.

6. A machine as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which provision is made for adjusting the machine to suit different heights of pineapple.

7. A machine as claimed in Claim 5 or 6 in which ejector plates registering with the peeler and corer tubes are carried by rods attached to an adjustable cross-head to alter the level of the ejector plates.

8. A machine according to Claim 6 or 7 in which provision is made for altering the initial position of the operating lever to which the peeler and corer tubes are connected.

9. A machine according to any of the preceding claims in which the peeler and corer tubes are mounted in a cylindrical housing and have the operating lever connected to their upper ends above the housing.

10. A machine for peeling and coring pineapples constructed and arranged as herein described and shown in the accompanying drawings.

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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improved Means for Peeling and Coring Pineapples.

I, ROY HOLMES, 39 Lime Avenue, Bread-sall, Derby, in the County of Derby, British, do hereby declare this invention to be described in the following statement:—

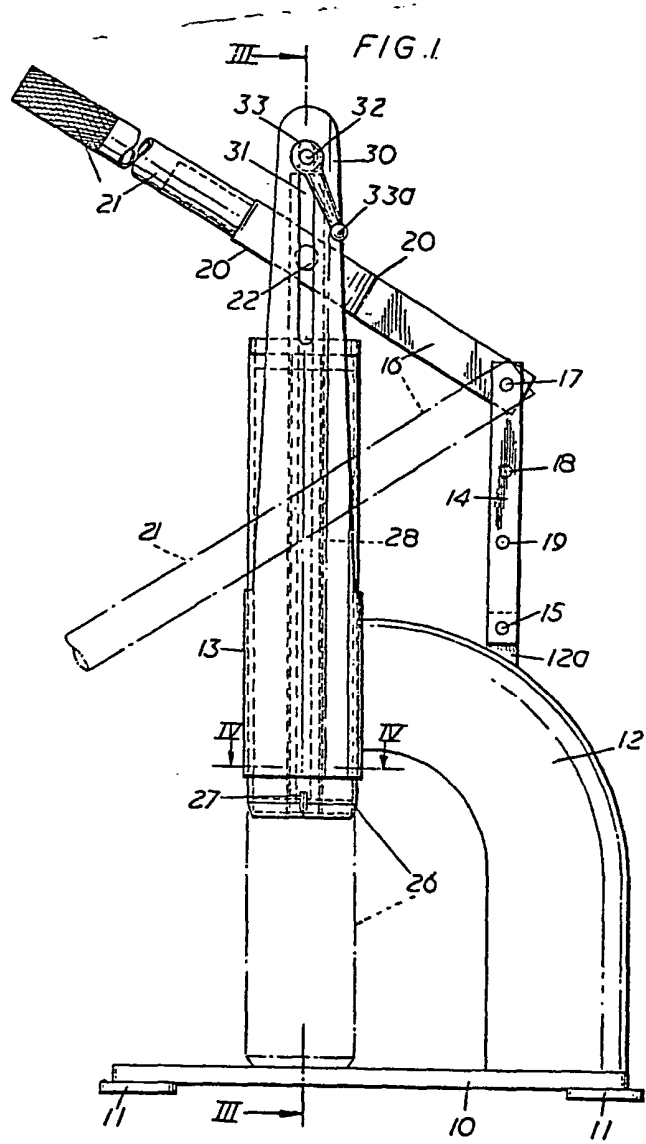
Pineapples (previously having had top and bottom cut off) are placed in position on base under cylindrical stainless steel peeler

and corer cutter tubes. The single operating lever is applied downwards until resting on base board. This action forces the pineapple inside both the tubes and at the same time the peel is removed and cut in two halves vertically by two splitting knives fixed horizontally to walls of main peeling

tube. Operating lever is returned to original upward position during which action the sized and cored pineapple is ejected out of the tubes and left on base. Adjustment is provided for various heights 5 of pineapples.

ROY HOLMES.

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